NUMB. CXCII.

The SPECTATOR.

—Uno ore omnes omnia
Bona dicere, & Laudare fortunas meas,
Qui Gnatum haberem tali ingenio præditum. Ter.

Wedneſday, October 10. 1711.

ſtood the other Day and beheld a Father ſitting in the Middle of a Room with a large Family of Children about him; and methought I could obſerve in his Countenance different ſorts of Delight, as he turned his Eye towards one and the other of them. The Man is a Perſon moderate in his Deſigns for their Preferment and Welfare; and as he has an eaſy Fortune, he is not ſollicitous to make a great one. His eldeſt Son is a Child of a very towardly Diſpoſition, and as ſuch as it the Father loves him I dare ſay he will make a Knave to improve his Fortune. I do not know any Man who has a juſter Reliſh of Life than the Perſon I am ſpeaking of, or keeps a better Guard againſt the Terrours of Want or the Hopes of Wealth. It is uſual, in a Crowd of Children, for a Parent to name out of his own Flock all the future great Officers of the Kingdom. There is nothing ſo very ſurprizing in the Parts of a Child that is a Man's own, that there is nothing too great to be expected from his Endowments. I know a good Woman who has but three Sons, and there is, ſhe ſays, nothing ſhe expects with more Certainty than that ſhe ſhall ſee one a Biſhop, the other a Judge, and the third a Court Phyſician. The Humour is, that any thing which can happen to any Man's Child, is expected by every Man for his own: But my Friend whom I was going to ſpeak of, does not flatter himſelf with ſuch vain Expectations, but has his Eye more upon the Virtue and Diſpoſition of his Children, than their Advancement or Wealth. Good Habits are what will certainly improve a Man's Fortune and Reputation; but on the other ſide, Affluence of Fortune will not as probably produce good Affections of the Mind.

It is very natural for a Man of a kind Diſpoſition to amuſe himſelf with the Promiſes his Imagination makes to him of the future Condition of his Children, and to repreſent to himſelf the Figure they ſhall bear in the World after he has left it. When the Proſpects of this Kind are agreeable, his Fondneſs gives as it were a longer Date to his own Life; and the Survivorſhip of a worthy Man to his Son, is a Pleaſure ſcarce inferior to the Hopes of the Continuance of his own Life. That Man is happy who can believe of his Son, that he will eſcape the Follies and Indiſcretions of which he himſelf was guilty, and purſue and improve every thing that was valuable in him. The Continuance of his Virtue is much more to be regarded than that of his Life; but it is the moſt lamentable of all Reflexions, to think that the Heir of a Man's Fortune is ſuch a one as will be a Stranger to his Friends, alienated from the ſame Intereſts, and a Promoter of every thing which he himſelf diſapproved. An Eſtate in Poſſeſſion of ſuch a Succeſſor to a good Man, is worſe than laid waſte; and the Family of which he is the Head, is in a more deplorable Condition than that of being extinct.

When I viſit the agreeable Seat of my honoured Friend *Ruricola*, and walk from Room to Room revolving many pleaſing Occurrences, and the Expreſſions of many juſt Sentiments I have heard him utter, and ſee the Booby his Heir in Pain while he is doing the Honours of his Houſe to the Friend of his Father, the Heavineſs it gives one is not to be expreſſed. Want of Genius is not to be imputed to any Man; but Want of Humanity is a Man's own Fault. The Son of *Ruricola* (whoſe whole Life was one continued Series of worthy Actions and gentleman-like Inclinations) is the Companion of drunken Clowns, and knows no Senſe of Praiſe but in the Flattery he receives from his own Servants; his Pleaſures are mean and inordinate, his Language baſe and filthy, and his Behaviour rough and abſurd. Is this Creature to be accounted the Succeſſor of a Man of Virtue, Wit, and Breeding? At the ſame time that I have this melancholy Proſpect at the Houſe where I miſs my old Friend, I can go to a Gentleman's not far off it, where he has a Daughter who is the Picture both of his Body and Mind; but both improved with the Beauty and Modeſty peculiar to her Sex. It is ſhe who ſupplies the Loſs of her Father to the World: She without his Name or Fortune is a truer Memorial of him, than her Brother who ſucceeds him in both. Such an Offſpring as the eldeſt Son of my Friend, perpetuates his Father in the ſame Manner as the Appearance of his Ghoſt would: It is indeed *Ruricola*, but it is *Ruricola* grown frightful.

I know not to what to attribute the brutal Turn which this young Man has taken, except it may be to a certain Severity and Diſtance which his Father uſed towards him; and might, perhaps, have occaſioned a Diſlike to thoſe Modes of Life which were not made amiable to him by Freedom and Affability.

We

We may promiſe our ſelves that no ſuch Exceſcence will appear in the Family of the *Cornelii*, where the Father lives with his Sons like their eldeſt Brother, and the Sons converſe with him as if they did it for no other Reaſon but that he is the wiſeſt Man of their Acquaintance. As the *Cornelii* are eminent Traders, their good Correſpondence with each other is uſeful to all that know them as well as to themſelves: And their Friendſhip, Good-will, and kind Offices, are diſpoſed of joyntly as well as their Fortune; ſo that no one ever obliged one of them, who had not the Obligation multiplied in Returns from them all.

It is the moſt beautiful Object the Eyes of Man can behold, to ſee a Man of Worth and his Son live in an entire unreſerved Correſpondence. The mutual Kindneſs and Affection between them give an inexpreſſible Satisfaction to all who know them. It is a ſublime Pleaſure which encreaſes by the Participation. It is as ſacred as Friendſhip, as pleaſurable as Love, and as joyful as Religion. This State of Mind does not only diſſipate Sorrow, which would be extream without it, but enlarges Pleaſures which would otherwiſe be contemptible. The moſt indifferent thing has its Force and Beauty when it is ſpoke by a kind Father, and an inſignificant Trifle has its Weight when offered by a dutiful Child. I know not how to expreſs it, but I think I may call it a tranſplanted Self-love. All the Enjoyments and Sufferings which a Man meets with, are regarded only as they concern him in the Relation he has to another. A Man's very Honour receives a new Value to him, when he thinks that when he is in his Grave it will be had in Remembrance that ſuch an Action was done by ſuch a one's Father. Such Conſiderations ſweeten the old Man's Evening, and his Soliloquy delights him, when he can ſay to himſelf, No Man can tell my Child his Father was either unmerciful or unjuſt. My Son ſhall meet many a Man who ſhall ſay to him, I was obliged to thy Father, and be my Child a Friend to his Child for ever.

It is not in the Power of all Men to leave illuſtrious Names or great Fortunes to their Poſterity, but they can very much conduce to their having Induſtry, Probity, Valour, and Juſtice. It is in every Man's Power to leave his Son the Honour of deſcending from a virtuous Man, and add the Bleſſings of Heaven to whatever he leaves him. I ſhall end this Rhapſody with a Letter to an excellent young Man of my Acquaintance who has lately loſt a worthy Father.

Dear Sir,

'I Know no Part of Life more impertinent than 'the Office of adminiſtring Conſolation: I 'will not enter into it, for I cannot but applaud 'your Grief. The virtuous Principles you had 'from that excellent Man whom you have loſt, 'have wrought in you as they ought, to make a 'Youth of Three and Twenty incapable of Com'fort upon coming into Poſſeſſion of a great For'tune. I doubt not but you will honour his Me'mory by a modeſt Enjoyment of his Eſtate; and 'ſcorn to triumph over his Grave by employing in 'Riot, Exceſs, and Debauchery, what he purcha'ſed with ſo much Induſtry, Prudence, and Wiſ'dom. This is the true Way to ſhow the Senſe 'you have of your Loſs, and to take away the Di'ſtreſs of others upon the Occaſion. You can'not recall your Father by your Grief, but you 'may revive him to his Friends by your Conduct.

By Her Majeſty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this preſent Wedneſday, being the 10th of October, will be preſented a Comedy call'd the Stratagem. The Part of Aimwell by Mr. Mills, Archer by Mr. Wilks, Sullen by Mr. Keene, Boniface by Mr. Pullock, Foigard by Mr. Bowen, Gibbet by Mr. Gibber, Scrub by Mr. Norris; Mrs. Sullen by Mrs. Oldfield, Dorinda by Mrs. Bradſhaw. Cherry Bonniface by Mrs. Bicknell.

At the Duke of Marlborough's Head in Fleet-ſtreet, is now to be ſeen a new invented Machine, compoſed of five curious Pictures, with moving Figures repreſenting the Hiſtory of the Heathen gods, which move as artificially as if Living: The like not ſeen in Europe. The whole contains near an Hundred Figures, beſides Imps, Beaſts, Fish, Fowl and other Embellithments, from near a Foot in Height; all which have their reſpective and peculiar Motions, their very Heads, Legs and Arms, Hands and Fingers artificially moving to what they perform, and ſetting one Foot before another like living Creatures, in ſuch a Manner that nothing but Nature it ſelf can excel it. It will continue to be ſeen every Day from ten in the Morning 'till 10 at Night. The Price 1 s. 6 d. 1 s. and the loweſt 6 d.

Chocolate purpoſed to ſtand the Buyers in Money, than it will thoſe that pay 4 d. a Pound to have it made their own Houſes, viz. Chocolate made of the Graccio and Nuts, an equal Quantity of each, 2 s. 6 d. a Pound. Chocolate of Graccio Nuts only 3 s. a Pound. Sold by Rob. Fary Gracechurch-ſtreet.

Wines to be ſold by Retail.

Excellent Red and White Port, and Red White Liſbon, being neat Wines as they came from the Grapes the beſt Growth in Portugal. To be ſold by the Importer in a Vin in Prabant-Court in Philpot-Lane, viz. Red and White Port Gallon, or 14 l. per Hhd. Red and White Liſbon at 5 s. 6 d. per Gallon, or 16 l. per Hhd. Attendance will be given every Day.

To be ſold by the Merchant, at his Houſe in Mincin-lane, next Door to Tho. Palmer, Eſq; a freſh Parcel of new Wines, viz. Obrion Claret at 3 s. a Bottle, Hermitage and Burgundy at 5 s. a Flask, no leſs Quantity than a Dozen.

Loſt on Friday the 28th of September near the Royal Exchange, a middle Size Italian Greyhound Dog, of a Colour, with a white Feet, a white Tip on the End of his Tail, a white Streak down his Forehead, a three-ſquare white Spot below his Eat the right Side of his Neck, and his Noſe ſpotted Black. Whoever brings him to Mr. Charles Lillie at the Corner of Beauford Buildings ſhall receive half a Guinea Reward.

Jane Watkins and Sarah Reeves, that make Sorts of Petticoats, Stays, Jumps, boned Waſtcoats, Canvas Coats and the new-fashioned quilted Petticoats ready made, are removed from Drury-lane to the Golden Spire in Lyle-ſtreet, Leiceſter-Fields.

Juſt Publiſh'd.

REMARKS upon Dr. Hare's four Letters to a Tory Member concerning the Management of the War, &c. In a Letter to the Earl of O—d. Sold by the Booksellers of Great Britain. Price 1 s.

Juſt Publiſh'd,

The Opinion of the Right Reverend Father in God William Beveridge, late Lord Biſhop of St. Aſaph, concerning the Apoſtolical Conſtitutions. Printed for John Morphew near Stationer's Hall. Price 3 d.

Juſt publiſh'd from an original Manuſcript,

The Caſe of Inſufficiency diſcuſs'd: Being the Proceedings at large touching the Divorce between the Lady Frances Howard, and Robert Earl of Eſſex, upon a Bill of Complaint exhibited by the Counteſs againſt the Earl, after 8 Years Marriage, for Impotency, as it was heard before a Court of Delegates authorized under the King's Broad Seal, Anno 1613; with the Arguments of both Sides, alſo that learned Speech of Dr. Geo. Abbot, Archbiſhop of Canterbury, againſt the Counteſs, and the King's Anſwer thereunto. Sold by J. Morphew near Stationer's Hall, and E. Curll at the Dial and Bible againſt St. Dunſtan's Church in Fleetſtreet. Price 1 s. Where may be had the Satyr of Petronius Arbiter, adorn'd with curious Cuts pleaſantly repreſenting the laſcivious Intrigues of the Court. Printed on an Elzevir Letter in a neat Pocket Volume. Price 2 s. or 2 s. 6 d.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in, as alſo by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.